IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naoya Kurimoto

Atty. Docket: 000674.00063

Examiner: H. Vu

Group Art Unit: 2833

Serial No.: To Be Assigned Filed: November 26, 2003

Continuation of Serial No. 09/455,804

Filed: December 7, 1999

For: CONNECTOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) Applicants submit herewith the references cited on the attached PTO form 1449.

Copies of these references are not submitted herewith, but can be found in parent application file U.S. Serial No. 09/455,804.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.104.

It is believed that no fee is required to ensure consideration of the cited references by the Examiner. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Buan E. Hanlon

Brian E. Hanlon Reg. No. 40,449

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd. Eleventh Floor 1001 G Street, N.W.

Date: November 26, 2003

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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO	Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Application Number	To Be Assigned		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Filing Date	November 26, 2003		
OTATEMENT DI ALI EIGANT	First Named Inventor	Naoya Kurimoto		
	Group Art Unit	2833		
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	H. Vu		
Chapt 4 at 4	Attaura Danies Number	000674 00063		

			U.S. PATENT [DOCUMENTS		
Examiner	Cite	Cite No.1 Document Number Number - Kind Code² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
Initials * No.	No.					
		US 5,116,236	5/26/1992	Colleran et al.		
,		US- 5,281,168	1/25/1994	Krehbiel et al.		
		US- 5,503,573	4/2/1996	Sagawa		
		US- 5,607,327	3/4/1997	Tsuji et al.		
		US- 5,647,778	7/15/1997	Yamaguchi et al.		
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		US- 5,860,835	1/19/1999	Ohsumi		
		US- 5,947,775	9/7/1999	Yamamoto et al.		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		DE 195 06 234	8/29/1996			
		DE 44 39 386	5/23/1996			
		EP 0 867 976	9/22/1999			
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) . ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.